

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ATHENS 04468 172058Z

67

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 EB-07

/075 W

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R 171500Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9193

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL MUNICH

UNCLAS ATHENS 4468

EO 11652 NA

TAGS PFOR,GR GW

SUBJ: FRANZ JOSEPH STRAUSS VISITS GREECE

1. STRAUS ENDED THREE-DAY PRIVATE VISIT TO GREECE ON JUNE 16. AT AIRPORT PRESS BRIEFING BEFORE DEPARTING HE SAID THAT THE GREEK ECONOMY IS IN GOOD SHAPE AND THAT GREEK-GERMAN TIES GROW STRONGER IN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AREAS AS GREECE IS MOVING CLOSER TO THE EC. HOWEVER, STRAUS ADDED THAT GREECE'S ENTRY INTO COMMON MARKET CALLED FOR CERTAIN READJUSTMENTS AND CERTAIN ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. HE CONCLUDED THAT "COOPERATION WITH GREECE... IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY (IN VIEW OF ITS STRATEGIC POSITION IN SOUTHERN EUROPE). I REFER TO GREECE AS THE POLITICAL PARTNER, I DO NOT REFER TO THE MILITARY PARTNER," HE SAID.

2. STRAUS MET WITH PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS ON JUNE 14 AND TWO MET LATER HAD SEASIDE LUNCHEON TOGETHER. FRG EMBOFF CONFIRMED THAT STRAUSS DID NOT REPEAT NOT MAKE CALLS ON ANY OPPOSITION POLITICAL FIGURES, EXPLAINING THAT PRIMARY PURPOSE OF HIS VISIT HERE WAS TO PROMOTE A-300 JUMBO AIRBUS WHICH IS BEING PRODUCED BY GERMAN-FRENCH CONSORTIUM CHAIRED BY STRAUSS.

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PAGE 02 ATHENS 04468 172058Z

KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONAL OPINION, FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ATHENS04468
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750211-0366
From: ATHENS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750640/aaaabkdr.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <17 FEB 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANZ JOSEPH STRAUSS VISITS GREECE
TAGS: PFOR, GR, GE, (STRAUSS, FRANZ JOSEPH)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006